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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AC A

Patent Application No.:

10/046,379

Confirmation No.: 1646

Inventor:

Eavenson et al.

Title:

BLOWER NOZZLE WITH VARIABLE VELOCITY OUTPUT

Filed:

January 10, 2002

Group Art Unit:

3752

Examiner:

T. Bui

Attorney Docket No.:

096311 010P2

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Petition to Withdraw Holding of Abandonment

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Abandonment mailed July 29, 2004, Applicants submit this petition to withdraw Holding of Abandonment under 37 C.F.R. 1.181(a). Enclosed is a copy of the Certificate of Mailing indicating that a Response to the Office Action dated January 26, 2004 was properly mailed to the Patent and Trademark Office on April 1, 2004. A copy of the return postcard identifying the papers filed and showing the U.S. PTO receipt stamp dated April 5, 2004 is also included.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Notice of Abandonment be withdrawn. Should the Examiner determine that anything else is desirable to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully Submitted,

WEGMAN, HESSLER & VANDERBURG

Bv:

Jeffrey S. Ellsworth Reg. No. 51,650

Suite 200

6055 Rockside Woods Boulevard

Cleveland, Ohio 44131

216/642-3342

August 9, 2004



Practitioner's Docket No.

096311 010P2

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Eavenson et al.

Application No.: 10/046,379

Group No.: 3752

Thach H. Bui Examiner: January 10, 2002 Filed:

BLOWER NOZZLE WITH VARIABLE VELOCITY OUTPUT For:

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ABANDONMENT—PTO HAS NO EVIDENCE THAT MAILED CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

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- (b) In the event that correspondence is considered timely filed by being mailed . . . in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section, but not received in the Patent and Trademark Office, and the application is held to be abandoned or the proceeding is dismissed, terminated, or decided with prejudice, the correspondence will be considered timely if the party who forwarded such correspondence:
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 - (2) Supplies an additional copy of the previously mailed . . . correspondence and certificate; and
 - (3) Includes a statement which attests on a personal knowledge basis or to the satisfaction of the Commissioner to the previous timely mailing. . . .
- (c) The Office may require additional evidence to determine if the correspondence was timely filed.

REQUEST

1. Applicant requests that the abandonment in this case be withdrawn.

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(Information for Withdrawal of Abandonment-PTO Has No Evidence That Mailed Correspondence Received [9-35]—page 1 of 3)

PROMPTNESS OF THIS SUBMISSION

This information is being submitted promptly after applicant has learned of the abandonment on the basis of:			
the Notice of Abandonment mailed by the PTO on			
applicant's own procedures in monitoring the progress of this case.			
SUBMISSION			
2. Submitted herewith is:			
(check and complete each appropriate item below)			
A copy of the page of the response mailed on $\frac{4/01/04}{}$,			
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NOTE: "A post card receipt which itemizes and properly identifies the papers which are being filed serves as prima facie evidence of receipt in the PTO of all the items listed thereon on the date stamped thereon by the PTO." § 504, M.P.E.P., 7th Edition.			
XX A copy of the complete response previously filed.			
☐ A copy of the cancelled check(s) referring to the response identified above.			
 A copy of the attorney's Deposit Account Statement, in which the item corresponding to the response referred to above is noted. 			
STATEMENT			
3. Attached hereto is a statement attesting to the timely transmission of the correspondence referred to above based on:			
☐ personal knowledge			
a showing believed to be satisfactory to the Commissioner			
4. Please proceed with further examination of this application on the basis of:			
The original papers filed, which have now reached the appropriate area of the PTO.			
AND/OR			
The attached copy of the papers originally filed.			
REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ABANDONMENT			
5. Acknowledgement of the active status of this application is respectfully requested.			
(Information for Withdrawal of Abandonment—PTO Has No Evidence That Mailed Correspondence Received [9-35]—page 2 of 3)			

(Rel.95—7/03 Pub.605)

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(Information for Withdrawal of Abandonment—PTO Has No Evidence That Mailed Correspondence Received [9-35]—page 3 of 3)



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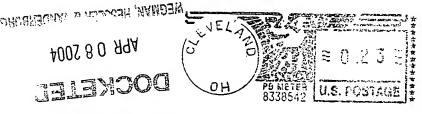
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Applicant/Registrant Eavenson et al. 373(b)

Title BLOWER NOZZLE WITH VARIABLE VELOCITY OUTPUT

Docket No. 096311 010P2

Date Due April 26, 2004

JSE: jkb



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A LEGAL PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SUITE 200 6055 ROCKSIDE WOODS BOULEVARD CLEVELAND, OHIO 44131-2302



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March 31, 2004

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MARTIN J. WEGMAN (1918-1977)

In re Application of

Inventor

: Eavenson et al.

Serial No. : 10/046,379

Filed Title

: January 10, 2002 : BLOWER NOZZLE WITH VARIABLE VELOCITY

OUTPUT

Examiner

: T. Bui : 3752

Art Unit Docket

: 096311 010P2

Customer No. 33805

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April 1, 2004

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Jacqueline K. Boziak

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is the following in the above-identified patent application:

XX Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.111

XX Copy of Power of Attorney to Prosecute Applications Before the USPTO

XX Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b)

XX Please charge our Deposit Account No. 502431 in the amount of \$0.00. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to such account. Two copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WEGMAN, HESSLER & VANDERBURG

Reg. No. 51,650

California and Missouri only

^{**} Registered Patent Attorney



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No.:

10/046,379

Confirmation No.: 1646

Inventor:

Eavenson et al.

Title:

BLOWER NOZZLE WITH VARIABLE VELOCITY OUTPUT

Filed:

January 10, 2002

Group Art Unit:

3752

Examiner:

T. Bui

Attorney Docket No.:

096311 010P2

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 26, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION

Please charge any fee necessary or due to assure entry to: USPTO Deposit Account No. 502431

Wegman, Hessler & Vanderburg 6055 Rockside Woods Boulevard Cleveland, Ohio 44131 Telephone: (216) 642-3342 USPTO Customer No. 33805

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] FIG. 4 is a [partial] cross sectional view of <u>an alternate embodiment of</u> the blower outlet and nozzle taken along the line 4-4 of FIG. 1.

Please amend paragraph [0032] with the following amended paragraph:

[0032] As best shown in FIG. 4, in In the preferred embodiment, lower wall 52 includes a generally planar interior surface 78 that is adapted to be generally aligned with the lower interior surface 82 of the outlet 24 when the nozzle 30 is connected to outlet 24.

Please amend paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] With reference again to FIGS. 2 and [4] 3, the upper wall 50 is adapted to include a sloped region 90 that extends along a portion of the length, L, of the nozzle body 38. Sloped region 90 acts to gradually decrease the height of channel 60 from the inlet end 42 toward the outlet end 46 to thereby provide a nozzle restriction. In the preferred embodiment, the channel 60 therefore has a maximum height, H₁, near the inlet end 42 and a minimum height, H₂, at the outlet end 46. In the preferred embodiment, H₂ is approximately from 50% to 75% of H₁.

Please amend paragraph [0036] with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] In the preferred embodiment, the shape of the nozzle body 38 and hence channel 60 utilizes the faster moving air in the lower (most radial distant) sections of the shroud 20 to provide lateral movement of leaves and debris. The sloped region 90 directs the airflow downwardly to reduce eddy currents as the air passes through outlet end 46. Arrows 94 in FIG. [4] 2 illustrate the airflow in the upper region 98 of nozzle 30, while arrows 100 illustrate the

airflow in lower region 102 of nozzle 30. "Upper region 98" and "lower region 102" signify zones separated by an imaginary plane drawn through a point midway between the upper wall 50 and lower wall 52 at the inlet end 42 and generally parallel to interior surface 78. The nozzle restriction provided by sloped region 90 increases the air velocity in the upper region 98 through the nozzle 30 as compared to the airflow in the upper region 104 of outlet 24. The airflow through the lower region 102 of nozzle 30 remains generally constant with the airflow through the lower region 106 of outlet 24.

Please amend paragraph [0038] with the following amended paragraph:

[0038] As further illustrated in FIG. [4] 2, the airflow in outlet 24 is generally unidirectional. As the airflow enters nozzle 30, the direction of the airflow in the lower region 102 remains constant while the direction of the airflow in the upper region 98 changes due to the presence of sloped region 90.

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

- 5. (Currently amended) A nozzle adapted for mounting on the discharge chute of an associated blower, said nozzle comprising: a nozzle body being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end being in flow communication through a channel formed in said nozzle body, said nozzle body including a nozzle restriction caused by a change in shape of the channel in an upper region such that the air velocity in the upper region of the nozzle is greater than the air velocity in a lower region of the nozzle at the outlet end and being adapted so that air passing through an upper region of said channel changes direction from said inlet end to said outlet end and wherein air passing through a lower potion of said channel flows in a generally constant direction from said inlet end to said outlet end.
- 6. (Currently amended) A nozzle adapted for mounting on the discharge chute of an associated blower, said nozzle comprising: a nozzle body being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end being in flow communication through a channel formed in said nozzle body, said channel being associated with a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel being associated with a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area, the reduction in cross-sectional area being substantially caused by a change in the shape of the channel in an upper portion of the nozzle body, such that air velocity through an upper region of the channel is greater than the air velocity through a lower region of the channel at the outlet end.
- 7. (Original) The nozzle of claim 6 wherein said second cross-sectional area is approximately 50% to 75% of said first cross-sectional area.

- 8. (Cancelled)
- 9. (Cancelled)
- 10. (Currently amended) In combination, a blower for generating a flow of air, said blower having a discharge chute, and a nozzle, said nozzle being adapted for mounting on the discharge chute, wherein the airflow through said discharge chute generally has a greater velocity in a lower region than in an upper region, wherein the combination comprises: said discharge chute having a generally planar lower interior surface; and, said nozzle having a nozzle body having an upper wall, a lower wall, and spaced side walls defining a channel being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said lower wall having an interior surface being generally aligned with said lower interior surface of said discharge chute and said [upper wall including a sloped region] nozzle body being shaped to provide a nozzle restriction in an upper region of said nozzle body such that the air velocity in the upper region is greater than the air velocity in a lower region of the nozzle at the outlet end.
- 11. (Original) The combination of claim 10 wherein: said channel is associated with a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel is associated with a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area.
- 12. (Original) The combination of claim 11 wherein: said second cross-sectional area is approximately 50% to 75% of said first cross-sectional area.
 - 13. (Cancelled)
 - 14. (Cancelled)

- 15. (New) The nozzle of claim 6 wherein the shape of said channel at the inlet end is such that the cross-sectional area of an upper region of the channel located above a plane drawn midway between an upper wall and a lower wall of the nozzle body is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area of a lower region of the channel below the plane at said inlet end, and wherein the shape of the channel changes between said inlet end and said outlet end such that the cross-sectional area of the upper region of the channel at the outlet end is smaller than the cross-sectional area of the lower region of the channel at the outlet end thereby forming a restriction in the upper end, the change in channel shape causing air from said blower to travel at a higher velocity at the outlet end in the upper region of the channel than air passing through the lower region of the channel.
- 16. (New) The nozzle of claim 15 wherein the nozzle is removably mounted on the discharge chute such that the nozzle is adapted to be removed and repositioned by inverting the nozzle such that the restriction is in a lower portion of the nozzle.
- 17. (New) The combination of claim 10 wherein the shape of said channel at the inlet end is such that the cross-sectional area of an upper region of the channel located above a plane drawn midway between an upper wall and a lower wall of the nozzle body is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area of a lower region of the channel below the plane at said inlet end, and wherein the shape of the channel changes between said inlet end and said outlet end such that the cross-sectional area of the upper region of the channel is smaller than the cross-sectional area of the lower region of the channel causing air from said blower to travel at a higher velocity in the upper region of the channel than air passing through the lower region of the channel at the outlet end.
- 18 (New) A nozzle adapted for mounting on a discharge chute of an associated blower, said nozzle comprising a nozzle body being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end being in flow communication through a channel formed in said nozzle body, wherein the shape of said channel at the inlet end is such that the cross-sectional area of an upper region of the channel located above a plane drawn midway between an upper

wall and a lower wall of the nozzle body is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area of a lower region of the channel below the plane at said inlet end, and wherein the shape of the channel changes between said inlet end and said outlet end such that the cross-sectional area of the upper region of the channel is smaller than the cross-sectional area of the lower region of the channel causing air from said blower to travel at a higher velocity in the upper region of the channel than air passing through the lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

- 19. (New) The nozzle of claim 18 wherein said channel has a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel has a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area, the reduction in cross-sectional area being substantially caused by a change in the shape of the channel between the inlet and outlet ends.
- 20. (New) The nozzle of claim 18 wherein the shape of the nozzle at the inlet end is substantially the same as the shape of the discharge chute such that the nozzle is mountable on the discharge chute.
- 21. (New) The nozzle of claim 20 wherein the nozzle is removably mounted on the discharge chute and is adapted to be removed and repositioned on the discharge chute by inverting the nozzle such that the air from said blower travels at a higher velocity in the lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of formal drawings replace the original informal drawings. The attached sheets of drawings also includes changes in that reference numbers identifying the parts identified in the written description have been added.

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed January 26, 2004. By this paper, claims 5-7 and 10 are amended, claims 1-4, 8, 9, 13 and 14 are cancelled without prejudice, and claims 15-21 are added. Accordingly, claims 5-7, 10-12 and 15-21 are pending upon entry of is amendment.

Response to Objection to the Drawings

The drawings currently stand rejected because they fail to include reference numbers identifying the parts of the invention as described in the written description. Applicants submit herewith the attached replacement sheets of formal drawings to replace the original informal drawings. The replacement drawings includes changes in that reference numbers identifying the parts identified in the written description have been added. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by these amendments.

Amendments to the Written Description

Applicants have amended the written description so that the correct figure number is referenced in the written description. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Response to Rejection of Claim 6.

Claim 6 is directed to a nozzle adapted for mounting on the discharge chute of a walk-behind blower. In centrifugal-type blowers, the air velocity is generally higher in the lower (most distant radial) section of the shroud. This higher velocity air profile at ground level has a tendency to produce eddy currents and turbulence that causes leaves and debris being blown by the blower air stream to spin upward and circle back. The inventive nozzle includes a restriction in an upper portion of the nozzle that increases the velocity of the air in the upper region of the nozzle at the outlet end. This configuration improves lateral displacement of leaves by knocking the leaves down and reducing the amount of leaves that circling back as a result of eddy currents. More particularly, claim 6, as amended, is directed to a nozzle comprising, *inter alia*:

a nozzle body being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end being in flow communication through a channel formed in said nozzle body, said channel being associated with a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel being associated with a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area, the reduction in cross-sectional area being substantially caused by a change in the shape of the channel in an upper portion of the nozzle body, such that air velocity through an upper region of the channel is greater than the air velocity through a lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

Claim 6 in the application stands rejected as being anticipated by Lauer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,253,416). Claim 6, as amended, is novel and patentable over the references of record, and particularly over Lauer et al., because the cited art does not show or suggest a blower nozzle having a nozzle body that has a change in the shape of the channel in an upper portion of the nozzle body, such that air velocity through an upper region of the channel is greater than the air velocity through a lower region of the channel at the outlet end as required by claim 6.

Lauer et al. discloses a walk-behind blower that has a maneuverable air stream director that can be controlled by the blower operator as the operator pushes the blower along a path of travel. The air stream director may be oscillated up and down to control the direction of the stream of air produced by the blower. As can be clearly seen, the blower nozzle disclosed by Lauer et al. does not have a restriction or a change in channel shape that would cause the air to travel at a higher velocity through the upper region of the channel than the air traveling through the lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

In fact, Lauer et al. teach away from the necessity of such a nozzle. As Lauer et al. illustrate in Figures 12 and 13, the blower allows the operator to rapidly change the vertical angle of the air stream coming from the nozzle to knock down the leaf stack instead of increasing the velocity through the upper region. As illustrated, the operator allows the leaf stack to loft as a result of the eddy currents in the air stream (shown by reference number 153). The operator then moves the nozzle into an upwardly biased position to direct the air stream against the upper portion of the stack to blow the leaves in the lateral direction. ('416 patent, col. 8, line 60-col. 9,

line 26; Figures 9-13). Thus, the reference fails entirely to teach or suggest a nozzle as required by claim 6.

Accordingly, claim 6 is not anticipated by or made obvious by the cited reference and favorable consideration of claim 6 is respectfully requested. Independent claims 5 and 10 contain limitations similar to those of claim 6 and are likewise patentable over the cited art. Claims 7 and 10-12, depending directly or indirectly from one of claims 6 or 10, are submitted as patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons.

New Claims

Applicants have added new claims directed to subjected matter that Applicants believe is patentable over the cited art. Prompt allowance of the new claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks made herein, Applicant submits that the claims presented herein are patentably distinguishable from the art applied and prompt allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner determine that anything else is desirable to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully Submitted,

WEGMAN, HESSLER & VANDERBURG

Bv:

Jeffrey S. Ellsworth Reg. No. 51,650

Suite 200

6055 Rockside Woods Boulevard

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216/642-3342

April 1, 2004



096311 010P2 Replacement Sheet

1/2

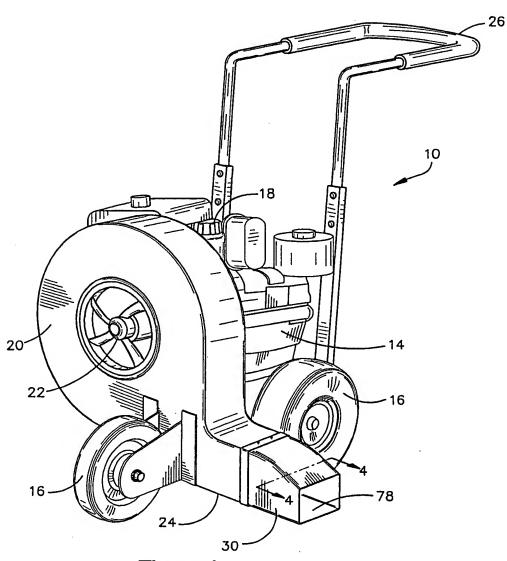
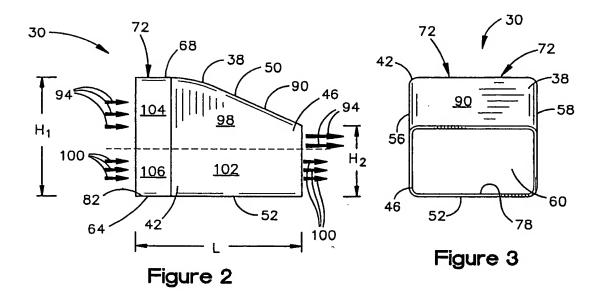


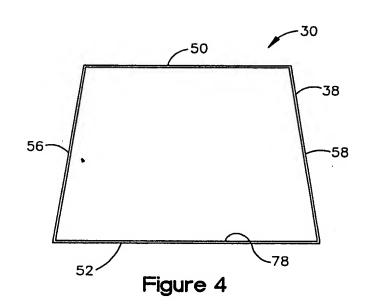
Figure 1



096311 010P2 Replacement Sheet

2/2





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17	mmercial Turf Products, Ltd 77 Miller Parkway reatsboro, Ohio 44241	
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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)

AUS 1 1 2004 &

Applicant/Patent Owner: Jimmy N. Eavenson, Sr., Willia	m Kocka, Amit Saha
Application No./Patent No.: 10/046,379	Filed/Issue Date: January 10, 2002
Entitled: BLOWER NOZZLE WITH VARIABLE VELOC	ITY OUTPUT
COMMERCIAL TURF PRODUCTS (Name of Assignee)	, a CORPORATION (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)
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4/1/04	Jeffrey S. Ellsworth, Reg. No. 51,650
Date	Typed or printed name
(216) 642-3342	Je Ellaun
Telephone number	tignature .
	Attomey . Title

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